

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/067,918
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

**PATENT
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REMARKS

The process claims have been amended in accordance with a suggestion by the Examiner in charge of this application, Bruce H. Hess, during a telephone conversation with applicants' undersigned representative, on September 29, 2004. Mr. Hess advised the undersigned that he is ready to allow the application, including the withdrawn claims, if the withdrawn claims are amended. Specifically, Mr. Hess noted that process claim 12 does not recite sufficient process steps. He suggested, as one possibility, amending claim 12 to recite the limitations of claim 13.

Prior to discussing the above amendments to the process claims, it is noted that the following additional amendments have been made. Claim 1 has been amended to correct a minor informality. Claim 17 has been amended by changing "adhesive layer (TG)" to "heat-sensitive recording layer (TG)". Claim 17 is directed to embodiment (2) on page 10 of the Specification. It is described on page 10, lines 20-22, of the Specification that the protective layer is formed on the heat-sensitive recording layer. Claim 18 has been amended by changing "adhesive layer" in the penultimate line to "intermediate layer" and by changing "adhesive layer" in the last line to "heat-sensitive recording layer". Claim

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18 is directed to embodiment (3) on pages 10-11 of the Specification. It is described on page 11, lines 5-9, that the heat-sensitive recording layer is formed on the intermediate layer, and the protective layer is formed on the heat-sensitive recording layer.

In the amendments to the claims directed to the process of the present invention, claims 12 and 13 have been combined and rewritten as three new independent claims. Claim 12 has been amended to recite the limitations of process (i) previously recited in claim 13. New claims 19 and 20 have been added to the application. New claim 19 combines the limitations of claim 12 and process (ii) of claim 13 and new claim 20 combines the limitations of claim 12 and process (iii) of claim 13. Claims 14, 15 and 16 have been amended to depend, directly or indirectly, on claim 12. New dependent claims 21-23, corresponding to claims 14-16, but dependent, directly or indirectly, on claim 19, and new dependent claims 24-26, corresponding to claims 14-16, but dependent, directly or indirectly, on claim 20, have been added to the application.

Claim 13 has been cancelled.

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Claim 12 as amended is directed to the preparation of embodiment (1) on page 10 of the specification, claim 1 (b2) + intermediate layer, or claim 7, as shown in Appendix 1a attached hereto. The process of amended claim 12 gives the recording material shown in the first figure of Appendix 1a. I.e., OC is combined with (S + TG + ML + adhesive layer).

New process claim 19 is directed to the preparation of embodiment (3) on pages 10-11 of the specification, claim 1 (b3) + intermediate layer, or claim 18, as shown in Appendix 1a. The process (ii) of claim 19 gives the recording material shown in the second figure of Appendix 1a. I.e., (OC + TG + ML) is combined with (S + adhesive layer).

New process claim 20 is directed to the preparation of embodiment (2) on page 10 of the specification, claim 1 (b3) without intermediate layer, or claim 17, as shown in Appendix 1a. The process of new claim 20 gives the recording material shown in the third figure of Appendix 1a. That is to say, support (S) is combined with (OC + TG + adhesive layer).

All of the claims remaining in the application, claims 1-4, 7, 9-12 and 14-26, are believed to be allowable. Reinstatement of the

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process claims and a notice of allowability are believed to be in order and are respectfully solicited.

In the event that any fees are required in connection with this paper, the fee may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Appendix 1a

Appendix 1a

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Embodiments

===== This line shows that the layers are brought into contact with each other.

New process claim 12

Method (i) on page 17 ; Examples 1-6, 12, 13, 15 ;

original claim 13(i) (=amended claim 13(i))

(Embodiment (1) on page 10 ; claim 1 (b2) + intermediate layer ; claim 7)

OC	Protective layer	Aqueous resin
EB	Adhesives layer	Electron-beam cured resin + pigment
MI	Intermediate layer	Aqueous resin
TG	Heat-sensitive recording layer	
S	Support	

New process claim 19

Method (iii) on page 18, lines 14 to page 19, line3; Example 8;

original claim 13 (iii) (=amended claim 13 (ii))

(Embodiment (3) on pages 10-11 ; claim 1 (b3) + intermediate layer ;
claim 18

OC	Protective layer	Aqueous resin
TG	Heat-sensitive recording layer	
MI	Intermediate layer	
EB	Adhesives layer	Electron beam-cured resin + pigment
S	Support	

New process claim 20

Method (IV) on page 16, lines 11-15 and lines 20-22; Example 9 ;

original claim 13 (iv)(=amended claim 13 (iii))

(Embodiment (2) on page 10 ; claim 1 (b3) ; claim 17

OC	Protective layer	Aqueous resin
TG	Heat-sensitive recording layer	
EB	Adhesives layer	Electron beam-cured resin + pigment
S	Support	